Marine Life Protection Act Initiative



Consideration of MLPA Goal 3 in the North Coast Study Region

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Goal 3 of the MLPA

Goal 3 of the Marine Life Protection Act is:

"To improve recreational, educational, and study opportunities provided by marine ecosystems that are subject to minimal human disturbance, and to manage these uses in a manner consistent with protecting biodiversity."

(Subsection 2853(b)(3), California Fish and Game Code)

Elements of Goal 3

 Marine protected areas (MPAs) may address one or more elements of Goal 3:

- Recreational opportunities (non-consumptive and consumptive)
- -Educational opportunities (formal and informal)
- Study opportunities (research within and outside of MPAs)

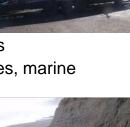






Key Considerations: Location

- Consider proximity to:
 - -Access points
 - -Launch sites and boat ramps
 - -Educational and outreach facilities
 - Research facilities (e.g. universities, marine labs)
 - -Long term monitoring sites
 - -Distribution of habitats
 - -Other proposed MPAs







Key Considerations: Allowed Uses

- Consider:
 - -Consistency with "minimal human disturbance"
 - Component of goal 3 addressed (e.g. consumptive versus non-consumptive recreational uses)
 - -Allowed uses in adjacent or nearby MPAs





Designing MPAs for Goal 3

- Stakeholders explicitly state how a proposed MPA design addresses goal 3:
 - Explain how location and allowed uses address at least one element of goal 3
 - -Cite information to support the design
 - –A single MPA may address one or more elements of goal 3
 - All elements of goal 3 must be addressed in each bioregion







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Evaluating Goal 3 MPAs

• Staff gives stakeholders feedback regarding:

- Consistency between stated purpose and proposed MPA design
- -Any elements of goal 3 not addressed

 Feedback will be provided by staff for Round 2 and Round 3 proposed MPAs





Next Steps

- Guidance document provided for review deadline for comments is May 13, 2010
- Feedback received may be incorporated into a revised guidance document

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